

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0105
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, XF
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SITUATION IN SOUTHERN
LEBANON

REF: USUN OO955 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 17 THE SECURITY
COUNCIL BEGAN ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION IN
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SOUTHERN LEBANON. SPEAKERS WERE LEBANON, ISRAEL, JORDAN,
SYRIA, LIBYA, THE PLO, AND KUWAIT. NEARLY ALL EXCEPT
ISRAEL CALLED FOR THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI
FORCES FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON. THE ISRAELI REP DECRIED
TERRORISM AND THE PLO, DEFENDED ISRAEL'S INCURSION INTO
SOUTHERN LEBANON, ASSERTED ISRAEL HAD NO INTENTION OF
SEIZING ANY LEBANESE TERRITORY, AND DECLARED ISRAEL'S WISH

TO SEE THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT REGAIN CONTROL OF SOUTHERN LEBANON. THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE WILL CONTINUE THE MORNING OF SATURDAY, MARCH 18. END SUMMARY

2. ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 17 THE SECURITY COUNCIL BEGAN ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. DEBATE WAS PRECEDED BY A PROCEDURAL VOTE IN WHICH THE PLO WAS PERMITTED TO HAVE A SEAT AT THE COUNCIL TABLE FOR THE DURATION OF THE DELIBERATIONS. THE VOTE WAS 10 FOR, ONE AGAINST (U.S.), AND FOUR ABSTENTIONS (CANADA, FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM, AND WEST GERMANY). LEBANON (TUENI) OPENED THE DELIBERATIONS BY NOTING THAT "LEBANON STANDS BLEEDING AGAIN." TUENI CRITICIZED ISRAEL FOR "TAKING INTERNATIONAL LAW INTO ITS OWN HANDS" AND CALLED UPON THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO PREVENT ISRAEL FROM BEING "JUDGE, JURY, AND EXECUTIONER WHILE THE UN STANDS IDLY BY." TUENI ASKED THAT LEBANON BE PERMITTED TO LIVE IN PEACE AND UNITY, THAT IT BE RECOGNIZED AS SOVEREIGN OVER ALL ITS TERRITORY, AND THAT ITS PEOPLE BE PROTECTED AGAINST THE INVADERS. TUENI CALLED FOR THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE "INVADERS AND MURDERERS."

3. HERZOG OF ISRAEL MADE A LONG AND HEATED STATEMENT ATTACKING TERRORISM AND THE PLO AND EXPRESSED SCORN FOR THE UN'S INACTION ON TERRORISM AND ON OTHER THREATS TO THE PEACE, SUCH AS THE HORN OF AFRICA, THE CIVIL WAR IN UNCLASSIFIED

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LEBANON, AND THE SAHARA. HERZOG CRITICIZED THE SOVIET UNION FOR SENDING MASSIVE INFUSIONS OF ARMS TO IRAQ, SYRIA, AND THE PLO, AND HE ATTACKED THE NEGATIVISM OF THE ARAB REJECTIONISTS. HERZOG DID REFER TO SADAT'S VISIT TO JERUSALEM AS A "GREAT AND IMAGINATIVE ACT," AND HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE PEACE PROCESS WAS IRREVERSIBLE. HERZOG SAID THAT WHAT ISRAEL DID IN SOUTHERN LEBANON WAS WHAT ANY SELF-RESPECTING STATE WOULD HAVE DONE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES. HE ASSERTED THAT THE ACTION WAS IN CONFORMITY WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW (HE DREW A PARALLEL TO US ACTIONS AGAINST PANCHITO VILLA IN 1916) AND WITH THE UN CHARTER. HERZOG CONCLUDED BY EMPHASIZING THAT THE ISRAELI ACTION WAS MEANT TO THWART TERRORISM; HE ASKED THE SECURITY COUNCIL NOT TO STAND IN THE WAY OF THIS AIM. HERZOG STRESSED THAT ISRAEL HAD NO DESIGNS OF ITS OWN ON LEBANON; HE ASSERTED THAT ISRAEL DOES NOT WISH TO ACQUIRE ONE INCH OF LEBANESE SOIL." HERZOG EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT LEBANON SHOULD BE RUN BY THE LEBANESE AND BY NO ONE ELSE. HE EXPRESSED THE WISH TO SEE THE CENTRAL LEBANESE AUTHORITIES RETURN TO SOUTHERN LEBANON IN SUFFICIENT FORCE TO PREVENT THE PLO FROM RETURNING.

4. NUSEIBEH OF JORDAN MADE A GENERAL CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL'S "INDISCRIMINATE AND COLD-BLOODED SLAUGHTER OF CITIZENS OF LEBANON AND OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEES." HE ATTACKED ISRAEL FOR FAILING TO PAY HEED TO THE UN CHARTER AND TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, AND HE SPOKE SARCASTICALLY OF "INSATIABLE ISRAEL." NUSEIBEH DEMANDED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO END THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION IN SOUTHERN

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LEBANON.

5. SYRIA CALLED THE ISRAELI ACTION "PREMEDITATED ISRAELI AGGRESSION" AND DECLARED THAT ISRAEL'S "REAL OBJECTIVE IS TO EXPAND AND TO OCCUPY MORE ARAB TERRITORY. SYRIA NOTED THAT THE ACT ISRAEL USED TO JUSTIFY THE

INCURSION INTO LEBANON DID NOT ORIGINATE IN THE TERRITORY
ISRAEL ATTACKED. SYRIA CRITICIZED US FINANCIAL
AND MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL AND CLAIMED THAT SUCH AID
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"CLEARLY ENCOURAGES THE ISRAELI POLICY OF EXPANSION
AND AGGRESSION." THE SYRIAN REP SAID THAT ISRAEL
DESTROYED BY ITS ACTION WHATEVER CHANCES REMAINED FOR
PEACE. SYRIA CALLED UPON THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE
ACTION TO HALT AGGRESSION AND TO ENSURE THE IMMEDIATE
AND TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS FROM SOUTHERN
LEBANON. SYRIA INSISTED THAT THE WITHDRAWAL NOT BE
SUBJECTED TO "PRECONDITIONS OR SO-CALLED ARRANGEMENTS."

6. KIKHIA OF LIBYA EQUATED ZIONISM WITH NAZIISM AND
REFERRED TO THE "INCIDENT OF THE 11TH OF MARCH" AS MERELY
"AN EXCUSE TO CONTINUE ISRAEL'S POLICY OF GENOCIDE AND
EXPANSIONISM." HE SAID THAT ISRAEL IS A RACIST, TERRORIST
ENTITY LED BY A TERRORIST. KIKHIA CALLED UPON THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO DISCHARGE ITS RESPONSIBILITY BY
"ORDERING THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF ZIONIST FORCES FROM
LEBANON."

7. TERZI OF THE PLO SAID THAT THE REAL AIM OF THE ISRAELI
OPERATION IS THE "OCCUPATION AND ANNEXATION OF THE
TERRITORY SOUTH OF THE LITANI." HE REFERRED TO PRIME
MINISTER BEGIN'S TERRORIST PAST AND COVERED OLD POLEMICAL
GROUND. TERZI DECLARED THAT THE UNANIMOUS AIM OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD BE THE IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF
HOSTILITIES IN SOUTH LEBANON AND THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL
OF THE INVADER.

8. BISHARA OF KUWAIT, IN WHAT WAS ESSENTIALLY AN EXERCISE
OF A RIGHT OF REPLY TO THE ISRAELI STATEMENT, COMPLAINED
OF ISRAEL'S "BARRAGE OF INSULTS" AND THE INCOMPATIBILITY
OF SUCH INSULTS AND THE CALLING OF A SECURITY COUNCIL
MEETING. BISHARA SAID THAT ISRAEL IS THE ONLY COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD IN WHICH THE "PREMIERSHIP AND AN IMPECCABLE
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RECORD OF TERRORISM ARE COMBINED." BISHARA REAFFIRMED
KUWAIT'S SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIANS.

9. THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESUMES ITS DELIBERATIONS ON
SOUTHERN LEBANON ON THE MORNING SATURDAY, MARCH 18. THE
COUNCIL WILL DECIDE AFTER THAT SESSION HOW TO PROCEED

WITH THE DELIBERATIONS. YOUNG

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